



User Representative Challenges On the ground

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Chair, Advanced Photon Source User Organization

Representing APSUO

- The APSUO is responsible for advising the APS Associate Laboratory Director in the following areas:
 - The Organization will serve as an advocacy group for the Facility and its user community.
 - The Organization will provide advice to the ALD on matters affecting the user community.
 - The Organization will assure good communication between the APS user community and the APS management.

So what have we done, are doing, and will do

- Organize Annual APS User Meeting
- Assess impact of lodging rate increases
- Provide input for Operations Scheduling
- Provide input for the handling of radioactive materials
- Support for resident users during upgrade

Lodging at Argonne Guest House

- In late 2015, the AGH substantially raised rates.
 - No notice given
- Facility is independently managed by outside company.
 - They set rates
 - Their goal is to improve the space so it can be a full-service hotel, with a lounge and all the amenities that most of the competitors offer
- Action: Creation of a Housing Survey
 - Sent to all APS users
 - Within 24 hours over 700 responses

	Prior to Nov. 15, 2015	Nov
Single room (1 night)	\$65.00	\$
Double room (2 night)	\$75.00	\$
Quad (under 4 nights)	\$260.00	\$
Quad (4-7 nights)	\$170.00	\$
Quad (8+ nights)	\$155.00	\$

Machine intervention days

- Machine intervention: No user beam
- Prior to June 2016 machine intervention days were scheduled on Tuesdays
- Imaging beamlines expressed an interest in moving to Mondays
 - Monday machine intervention would reduce Sat/Sun user changes
 - No opposition, but no solicitation
- Steering Committee passed on recommendation to APS Management
- Starting June 2016 machine intervention days are scheduled on Mondays
- Communicating to users, the facility, and DOE
 - Was this helpful?
 - Unintended consequences good and bad?

Radioactive sample transportation/handling

- Bringing samples to the APS and working with samples on-site is complicated
- Re-evaluating/clarifying/simplifying rules motivated the former APSUO Committee to serve
- Results of a workshop (APS User Meeting) on radioactive sample (RS) handling were presented to management
- Improved notifications/communication to users planning experiments with RS
- Lab for directly handling samples would require significant investment
- Define a de minimus for radioactive samples (in progress)
- Opportunity for NUFO: Help establish a common set of practical safety rules for RS transport and handling

User Representative Challenges

- The numbers game
 - How to decide when to push for change?
- Communication with users
 - From users – what are the issues?
 - To users – what are we doing?
- Length of terms
 - Rapid turnover impedes 'large projects'
- Shared challenges
 - NUFO – Help discuss/establish best practices for UEC administration
 - NUFO – Help provide solutions to common user issues (radioactive samples)



Challenge: The numbers game

- How to decide when to push for change?
- Housing
 - Requesters small / impact large / effort (small?)
- Operations schedule
 - Requesters small / impact large / effort (small?)
- Radioactive sample handling
 - Requesters small / impact small / effort (large)